

Title IV Part A – Safe and Drug-Free Schools & Communities Fact Sheet

Legislation

The Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (SDFSCA) (Title IV, Part A of the ESEA) authorizes a variety of activities designed to prevent school violence and youth drug use, and to help schools and communities create safe, disciplined, and drug-free environments that support student academic achievement.

Purpose

The purpose of the SDFSCA is to support programs that: (1) prevent violence in and around schools; (2) prevent the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs; (3) involve parents and communities; and, (4) are coordinated with related Federal, State, school, and community efforts and resources to foster a safe and drug-free learning environment that promotes student academic achievement.

What's New in 2008-09

The Title IV waiver page has been eliminated. In its place, a simpler and more focused “Title IV form” has been created within the e-application which requires answers to three key questions instead of nine. This page needs to be completed for all programs using Title IV funds, but not for strategies that are supporting School Resource Officers, Student Assistance Personnel, or Safe and Drug Free Schools Coordinators. Note: In the e-application, the Title IV form page appears in the form of a POP-UP.

Title IV allows an LEA to carryover (forward) up to 25% of their previous year's allocation without penalty. LEAs that exceed this carryover limit must request a waiver annually or forfeit excess funds. Past practice allowed LEAs to see all carryover dollars on page 2 of the CFP amendment, before waivers were approved, indeed often before waivers were requested. For FY09 carryover amounts shown on the allocations page of the CFP electronic amendment will NOT include carryover dollars that exceed the allowable 25% limit until such time the LEA has an approved waiver to do so.

Title IV Strategies

- Choose strategies that support your local and Safe & Drug-Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) plan and address findings of your local needs assessment.
- Choose strategies with programs and activities that are based on scientifically-based research
- Be prepared to outline the evidence that the strategy is effective and cite the source of the scientific research.
- Keep copies of data reports for referencing during the amendment process.

Programs must meet the Principles of Effectiveness

- a. Include an assessment of objective data
- b. Establish set of performance measures
- c. Be based on scientifically-based research
- d. Be based on an analysis of the data
- e. Include consultation and input from parents

Required Data Reporting by the State Education Agency (SEA)

Submit Title IV required reports before submitting the CFP application. Reports include: the Safe & Healthy Schools Program Data Update Report, the CIRS (Combined Incident Reporting Software) Report, and the Local Educational Agency Evaluation Report.

More Info

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